

Middlesex University Research Repository

An open access repository of

Middlesex University research

<http://eprints.mdx.ac.uk>

Leeson, Loraine ORCID logoORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6684-3911> (2014) Active Energy - where art and engineering meet. In: CAA 102nd Annual Conference, 12-15 Feb 2014, Chicago. . [Conference or Workshop Item]

Presentation

This version is available at: <https://eprints.mdx.ac.uk/16093/>

Copyright:

Middlesex University Research Repository makes the University's research available electronically.

Copyright and moral rights to this work are retained by the author and/or other copyright owners unless otherwise stated. The work is supplied on the understanding that any use for commercial gain is strictly forbidden. A copy may be downloaded for personal, non-commercial, research or study without prior permission and without charge.

Works, including theses and research projects, may not be reproduced in any format or medium, or extensive quotations taken from them, or their content changed in any way, without first obtaining permission in writing from the copyright holder(s). They may not be sold or exploited commercially in any format or medium without the prior written permission of the copyright holder(s).

Full bibliographic details must be given when referring to, or quoting from full items including the author's name, the title of the work, publication details where relevant (place, publisher, date), pagination, and for theses or dissertations the awarding institution, the degree type awarded, and the date of the award.

If you believe that any material held in the repository infringes copyright law, please contact the Repository Team at Middlesex University via the following email address:

eprints@mdx.ac.uk

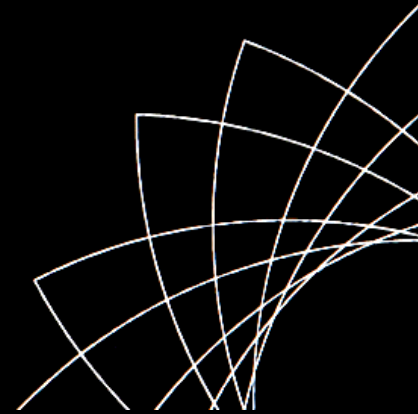
The item will be removed from the repository while any claim is being investigated.

See also repository copyright: re-use policy: <http://eprints.mdx.ac.uk/policies.html#copy>

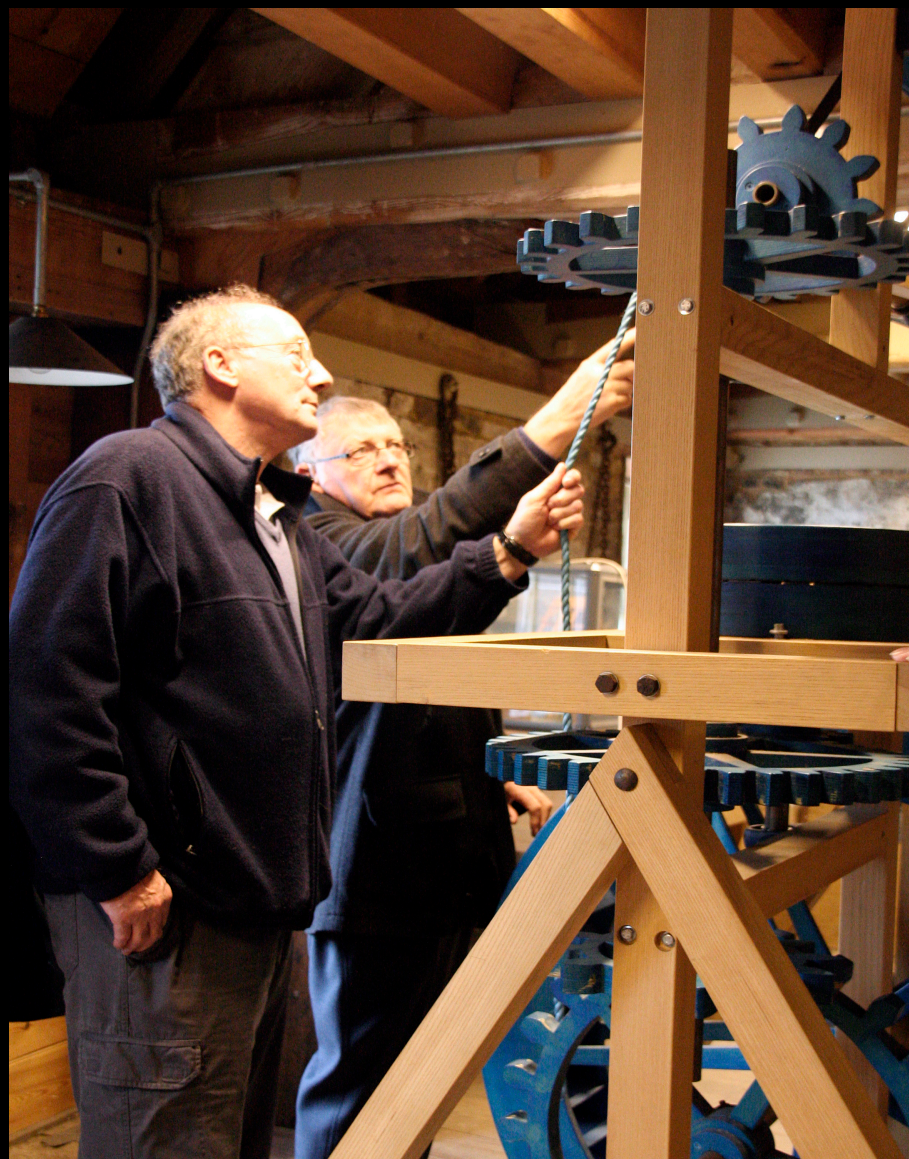
ACTIVE ENERGY

Where art and engineering meet

Loraine Leeson























BIT OF A
GEEZER:
Tom Diss, 83



GEEZER POWER

Seniors unveil renewable energy plan

By VICTORIA HUNTLEY

COCKNEY geezers who say they know a thing or two about the world are reclaiming 'innovative thinking' from the younger generation.

A group of senior men at Age Concern Tower Hamlets, who call themselves The Geezers, claim they have the knowledge and experience to solve London's power problems.

They have joined with community artist and University of East London research fellow Loraine Leeson to put together a forward-thinking renewable energy project using the tidal power of the Thames.

The project now on public show at Mare Street's Space gallery in Hackney is being dubbed 'Geezer Power.'

Geezer-in-chief Ray Gipson said:

"Older people have more experience of life.

"Yet this knowledge is seldom able to inform technological innovation.

"We may be past our 'sell-by' dates, but we still have a lot to offer — and a special interest in how the world will be for future generations."

The 14 pensioners, based at Age Concern's branch in Russia Street, Bethnal Green, have clubbed together to pour their life experience into the project for the exhibition called Not Quite Yet, which opened on Friday.

The Geezers' innovative, power generating idea would see a string of turbines installed in the lanes of the Thames Barrier, using the tidal movement of the river to produce electricity. It uses history as a starting point.

"This isn't new, as centuries ago a water wheel was attached to London

Bridge," Geezer Ray added.

"In our living memories, tidal technologies have been developed, but then set aside in favour of wind farms.

"Now the threat of nuclear energy is on the agenda again.

"We think it is time to let the Thames power London and we, The Geezers, intend to make it happen."

The 'Thames turbine' idea is on show alongside work by other professional artists collaborating with older people at Space Gallery in the programme which aims to 'reconnect' pensioners with current technology.

"Even if we could just provide power for some homes for the elderly, or for the street lighting, that would be an achievement," he continues.

"The world needs as many sustainable resources as it can get. It's time for Geezer Power."



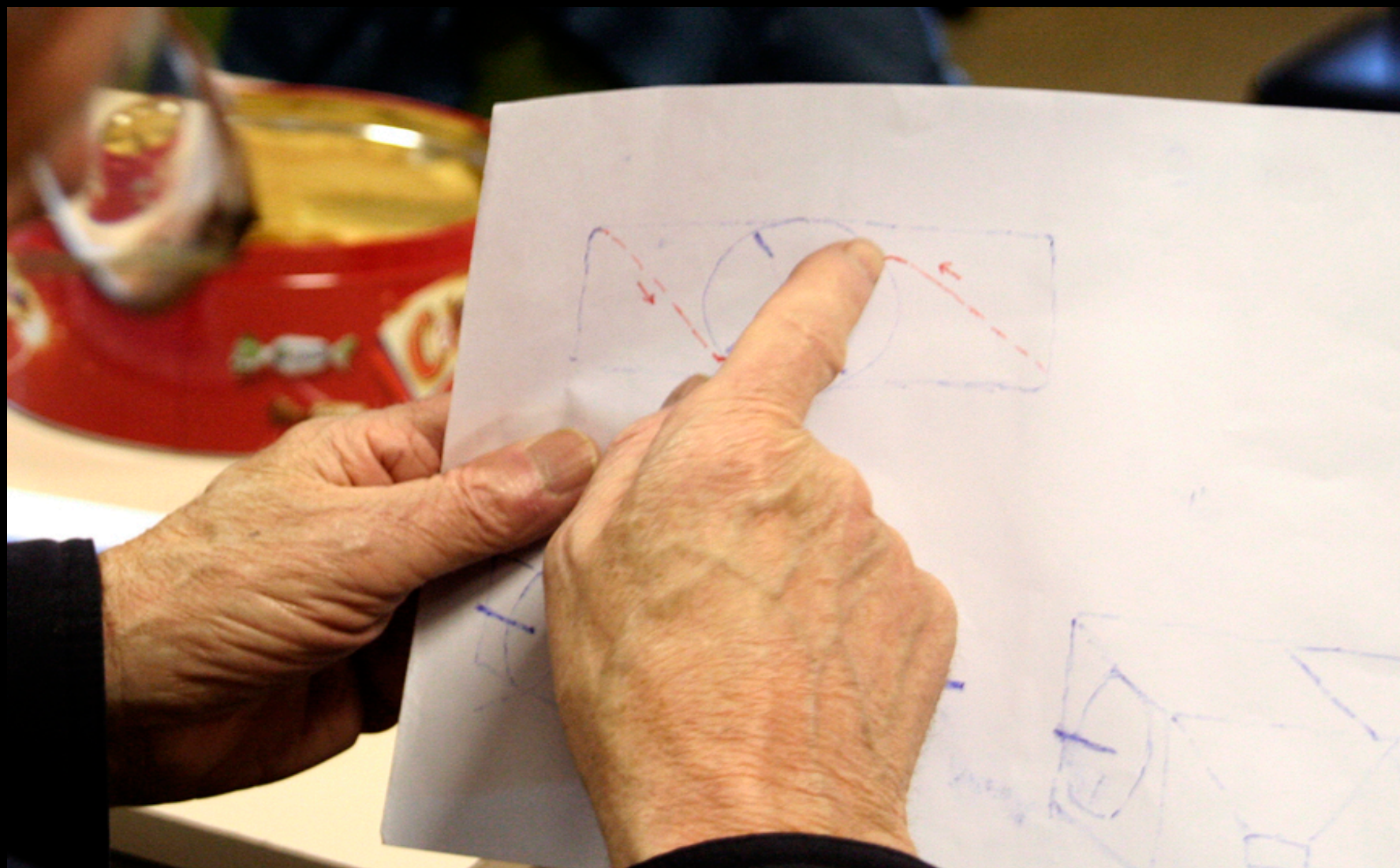
Dennis Banks, 76

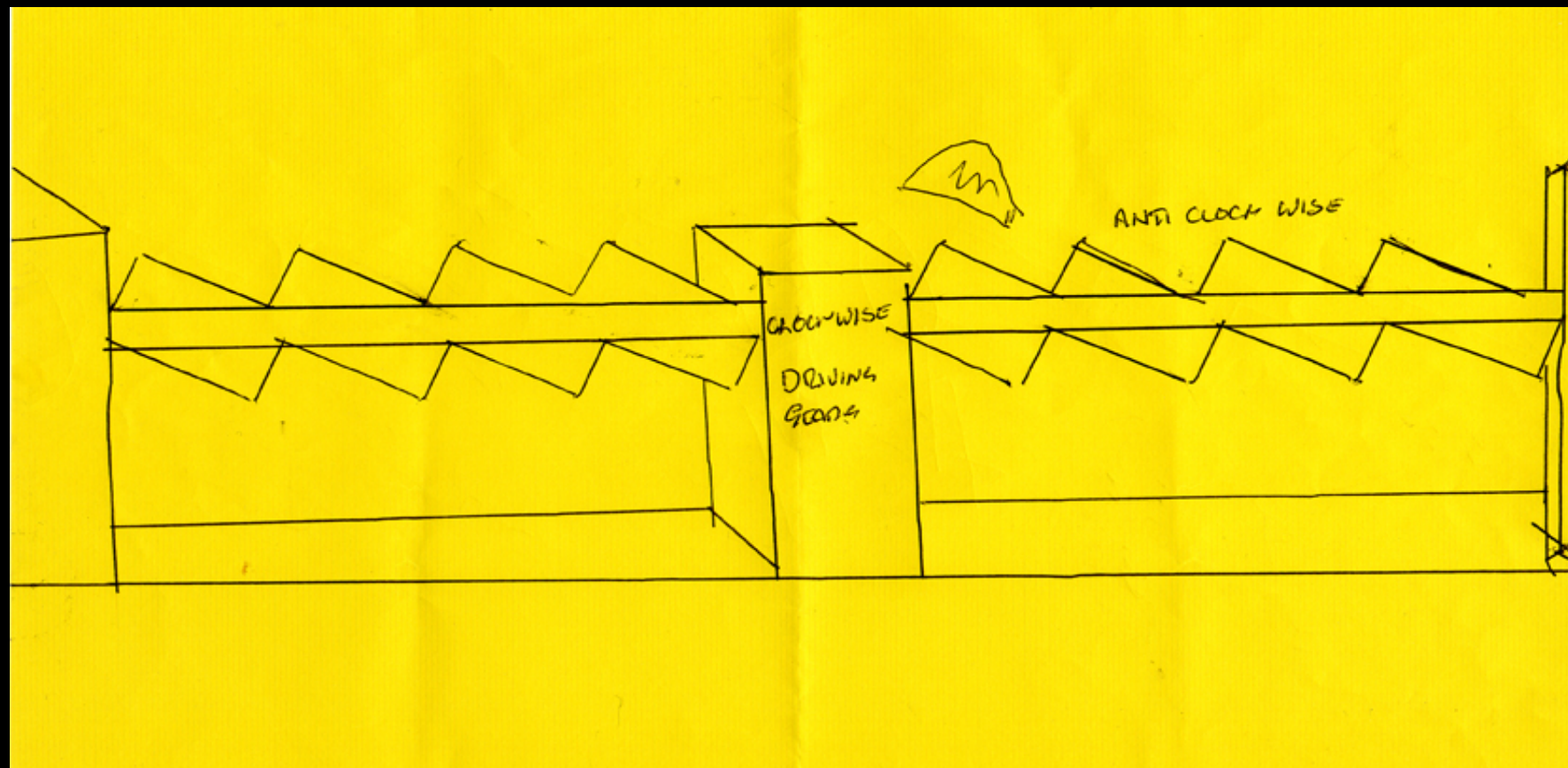


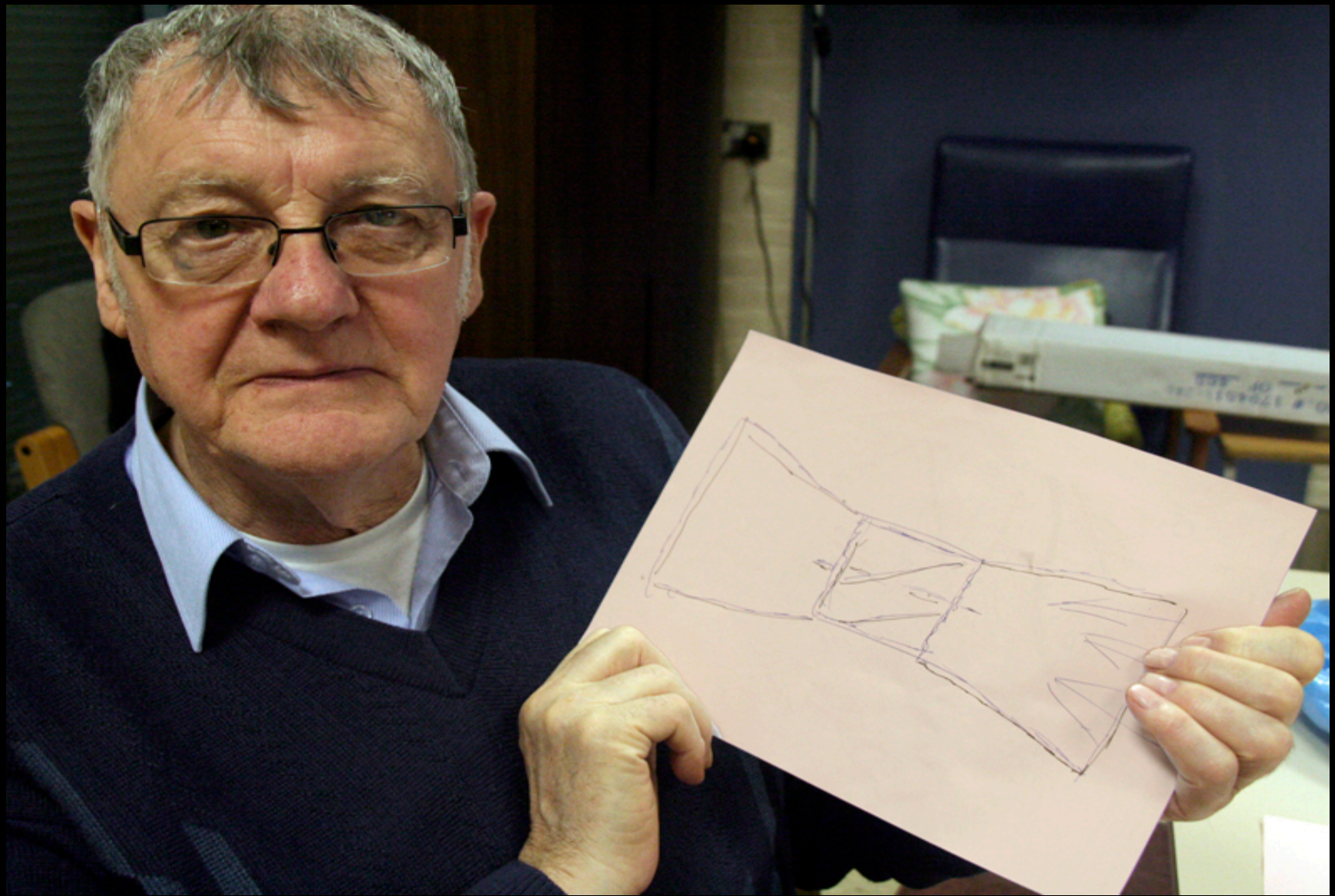
John Day, 76

GEEZER'S CLUB

PROJECT WITH QUEEN MARY COLLEGE & SPACE STUDIO'S

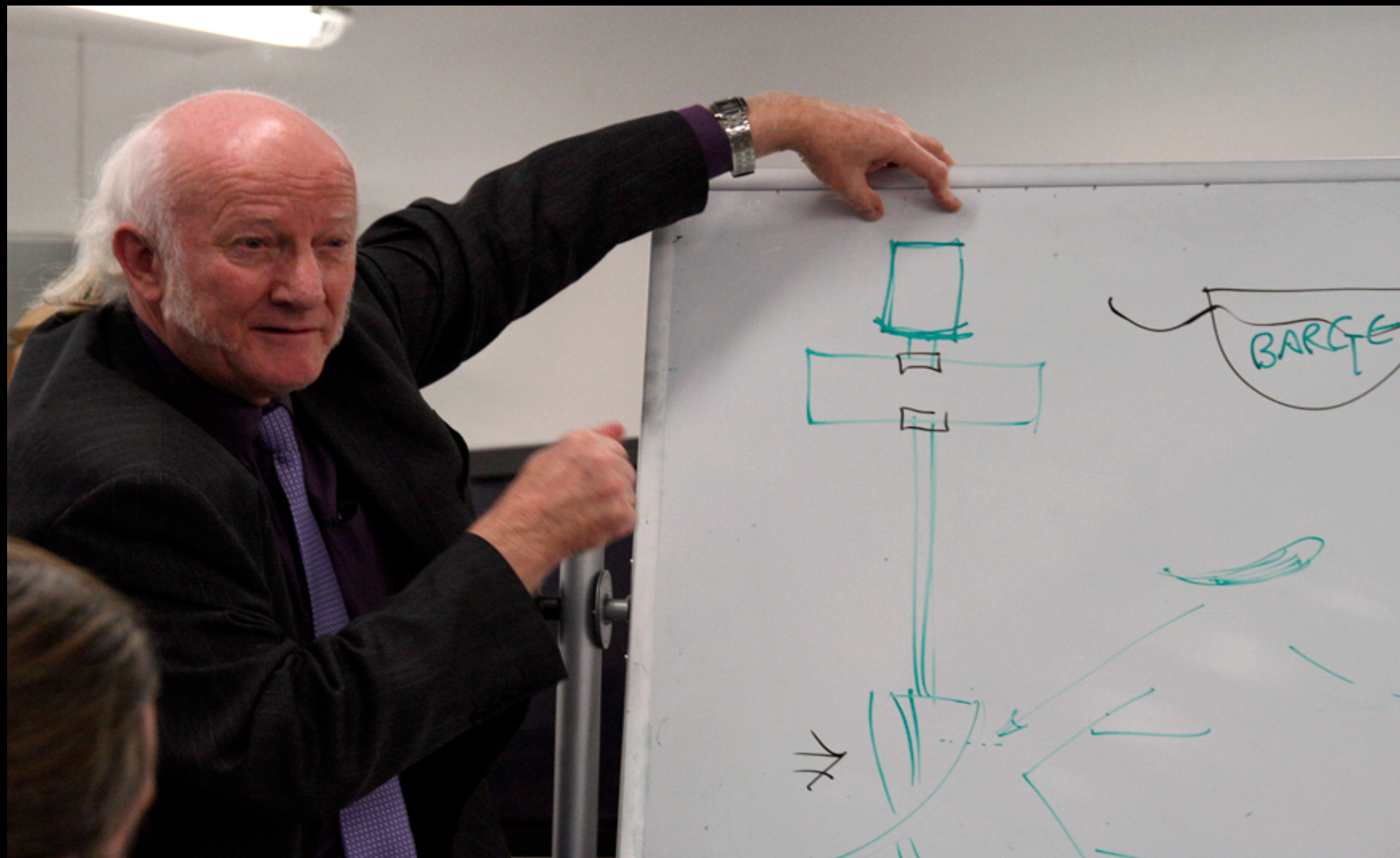


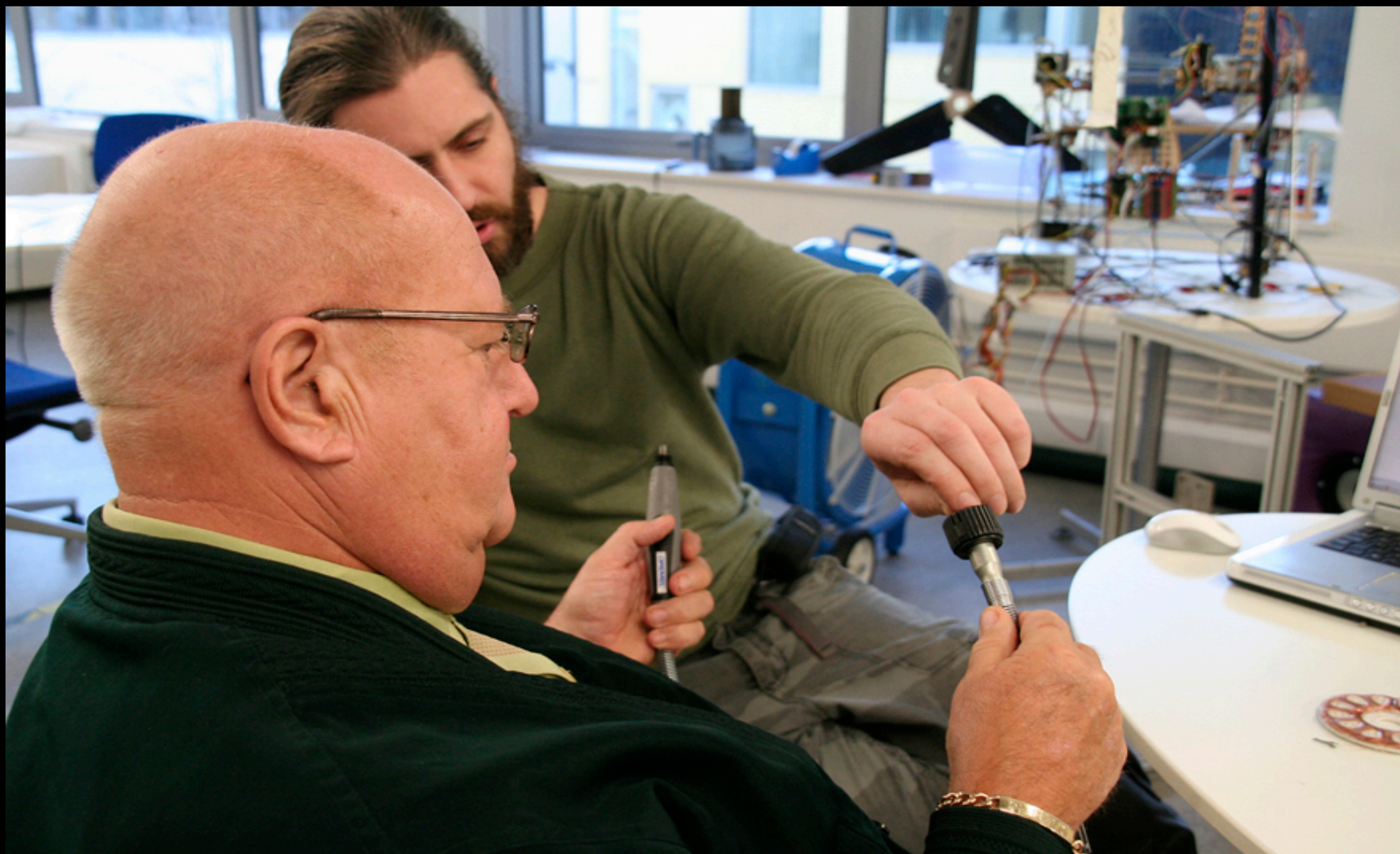




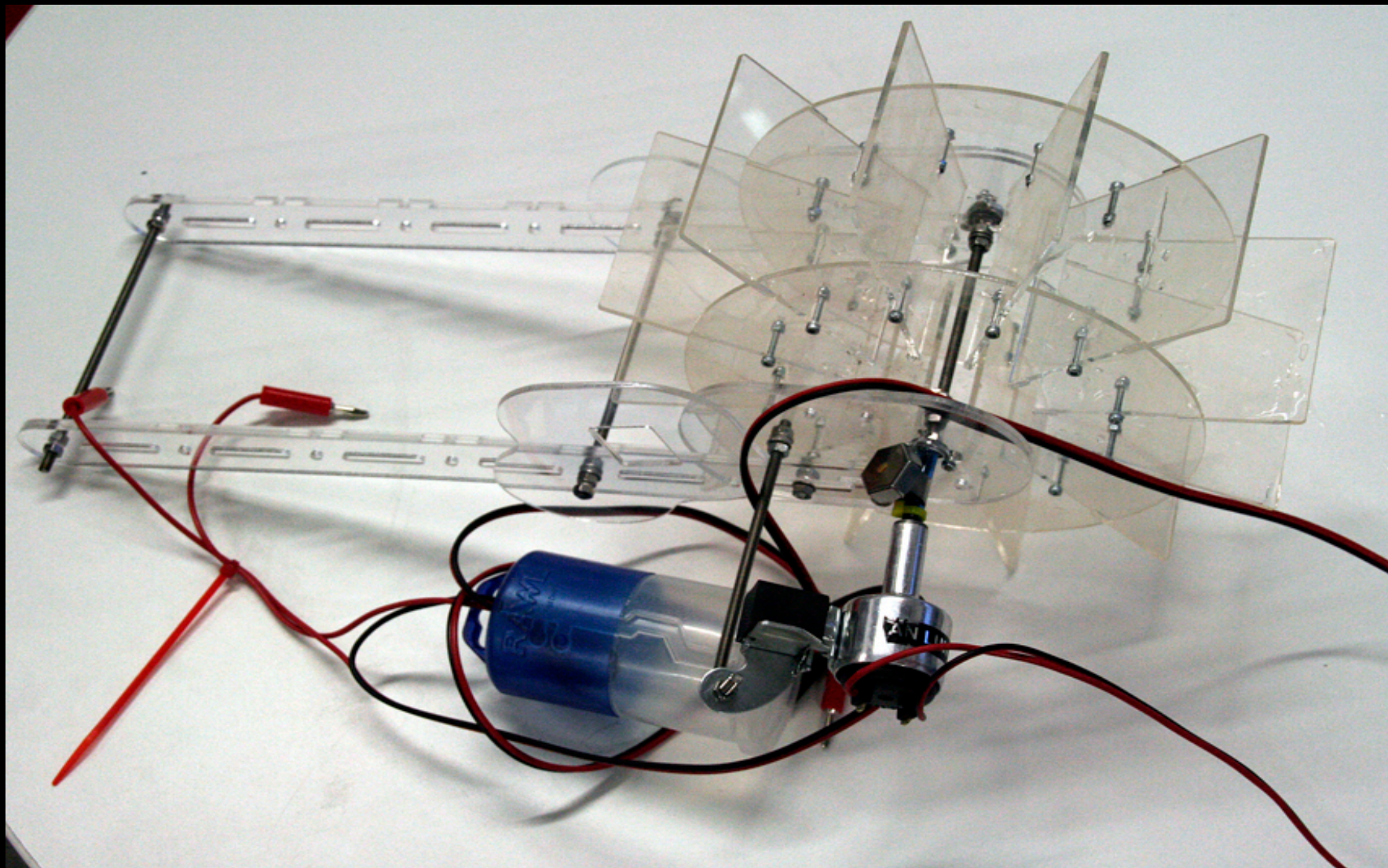






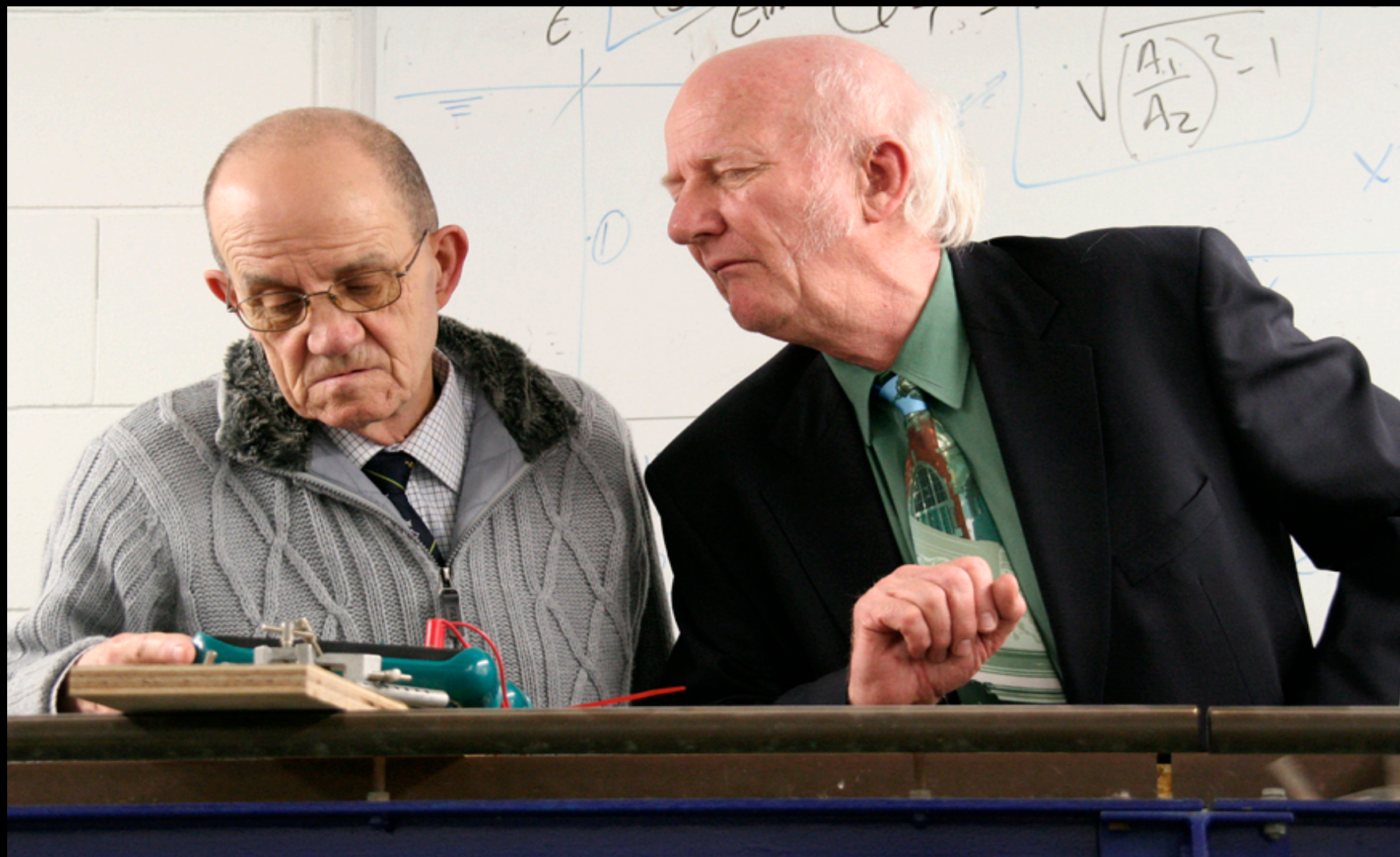




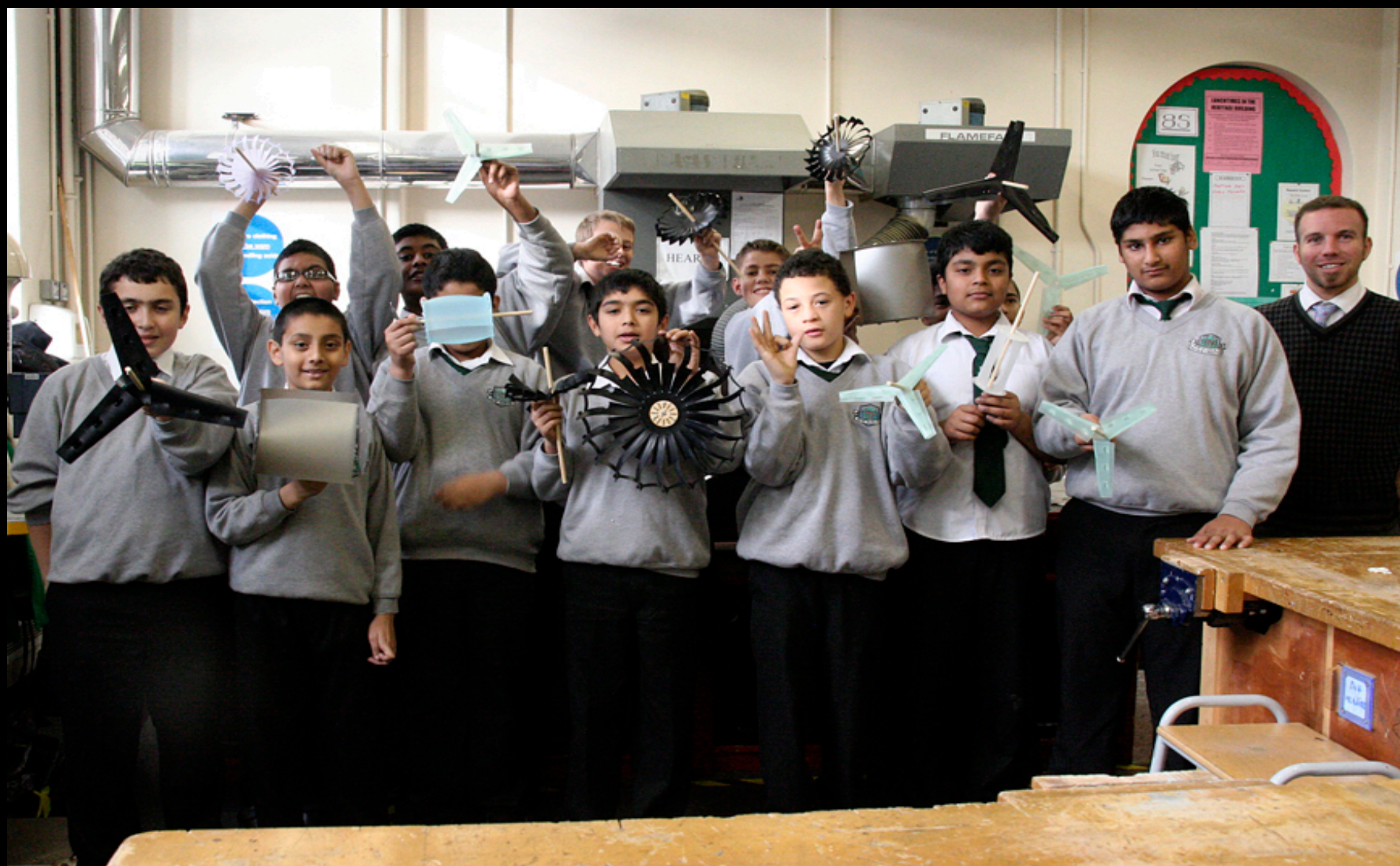










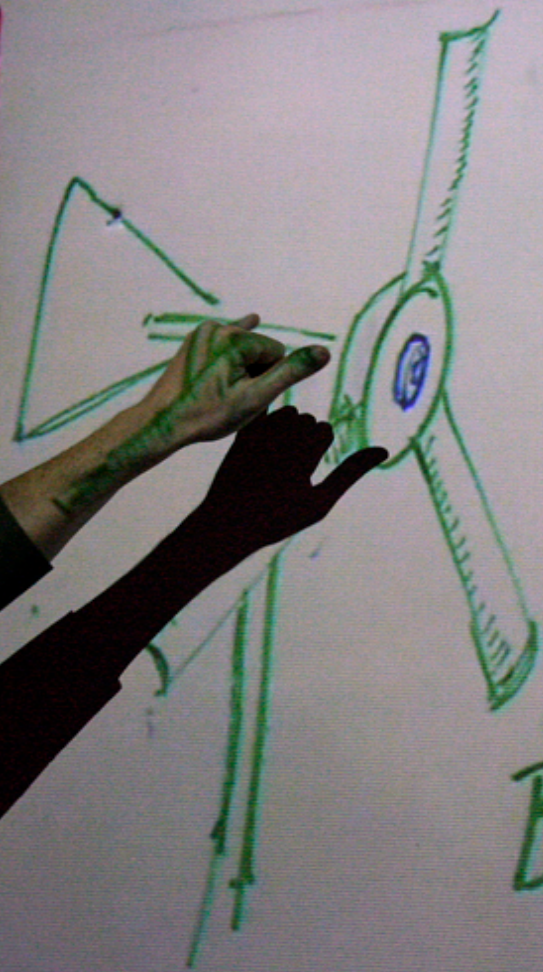




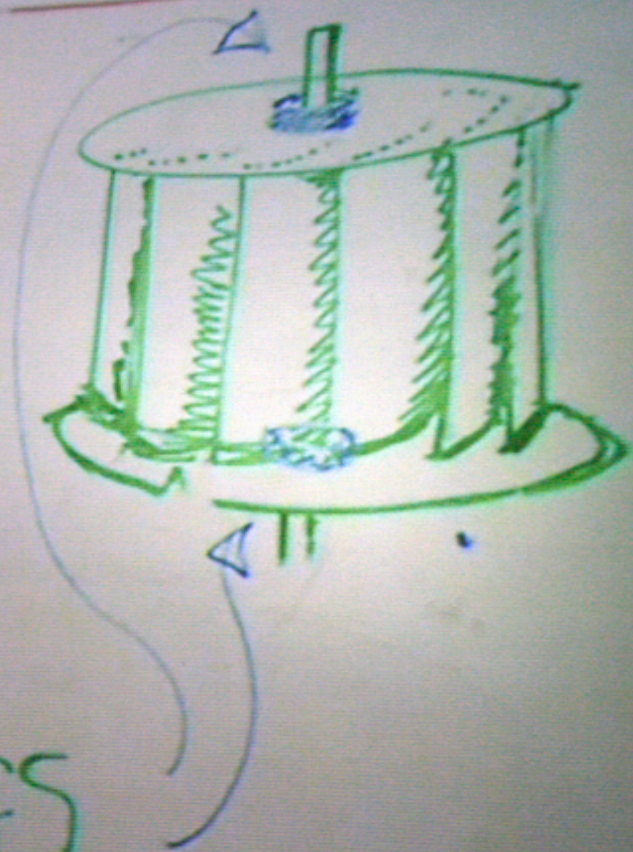






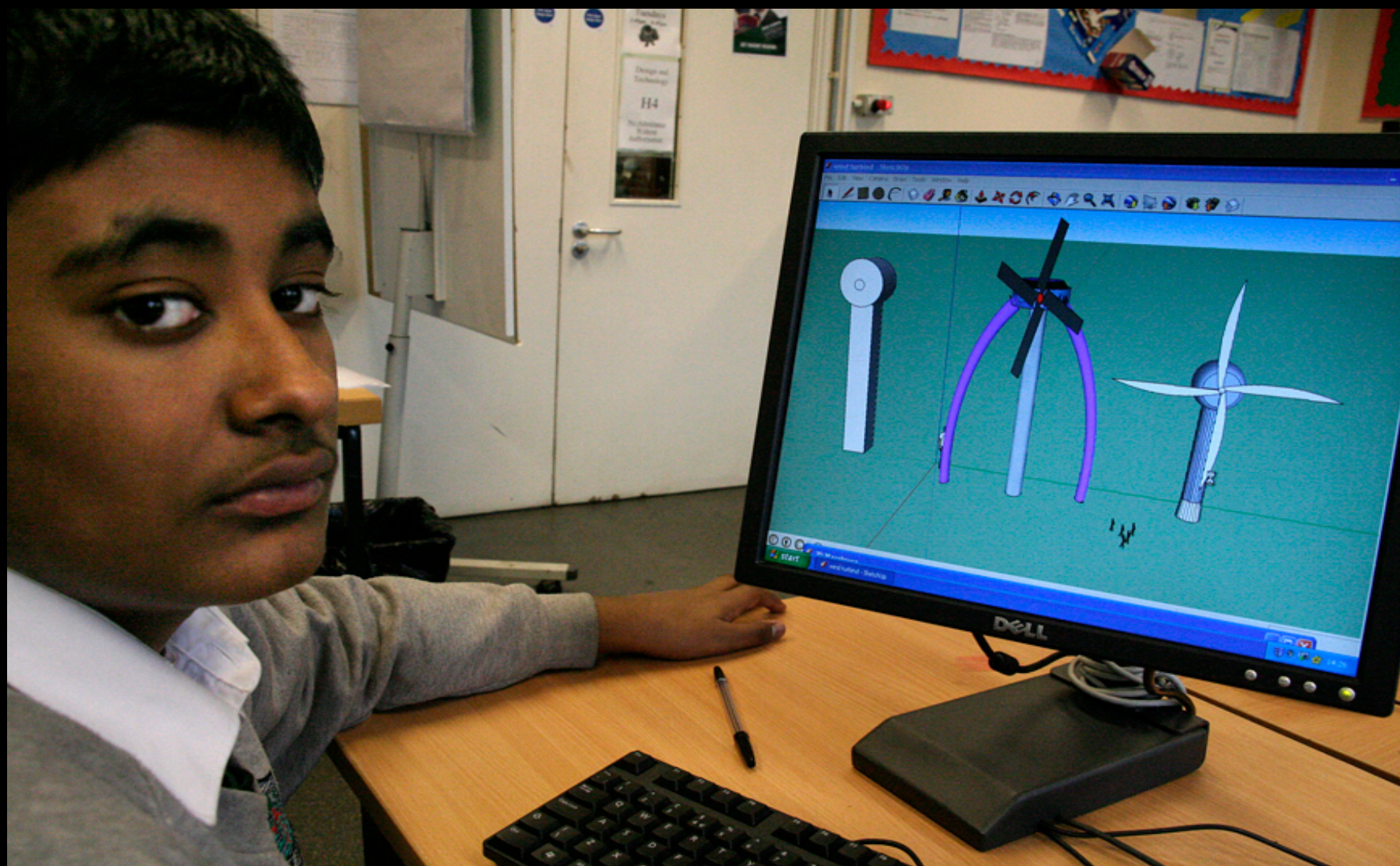


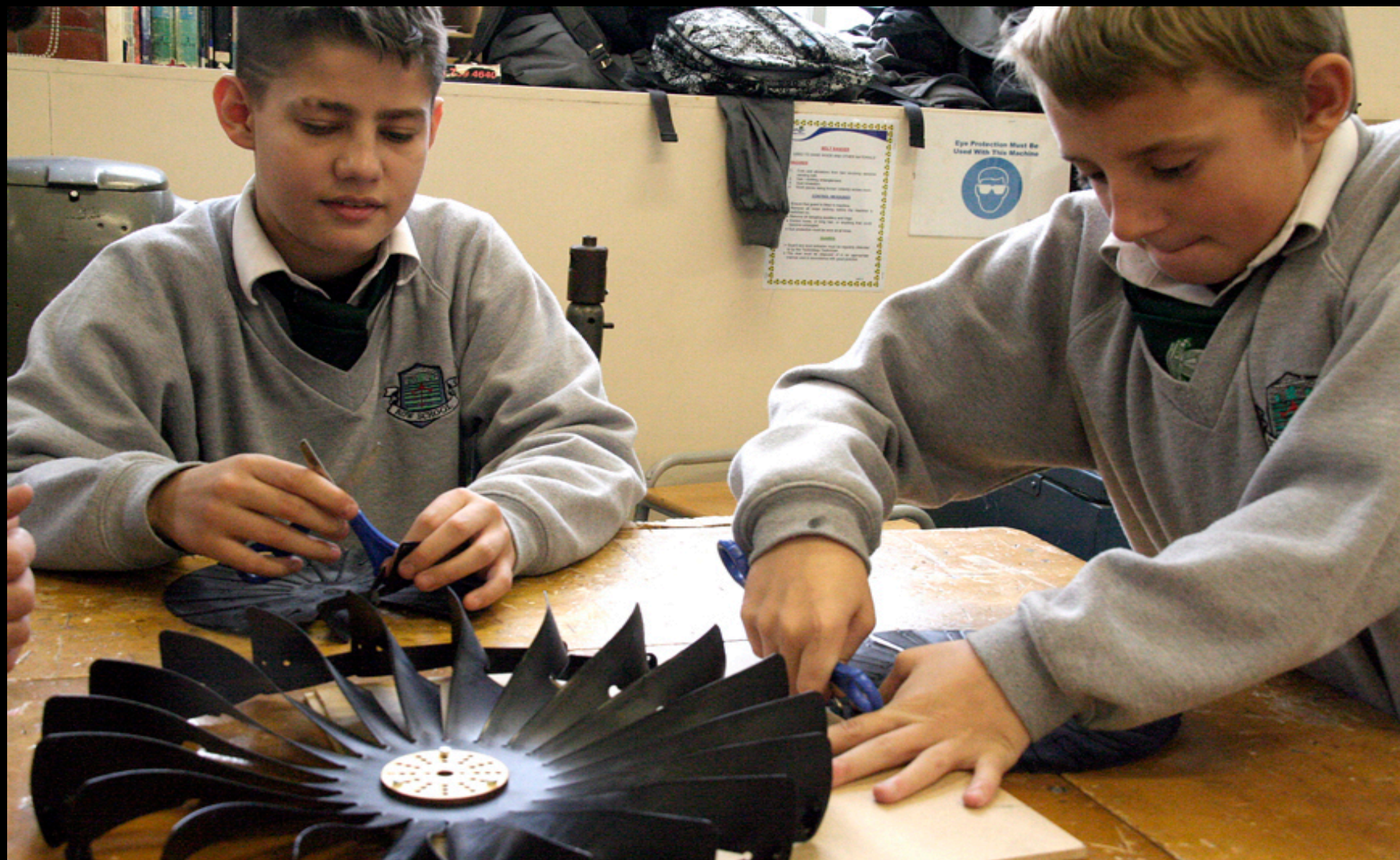
EASY
TO
FIX
ON
BEARINGS



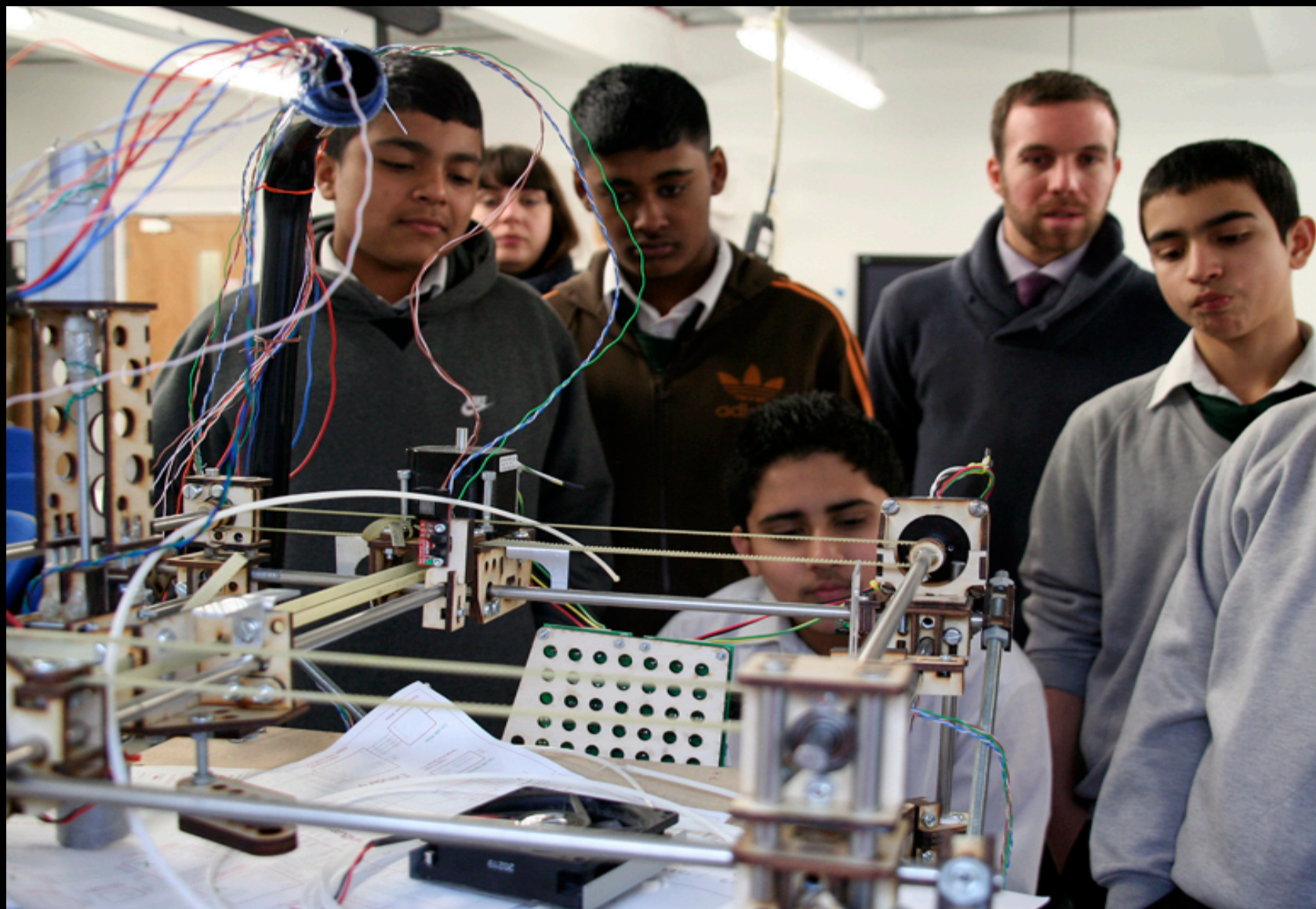






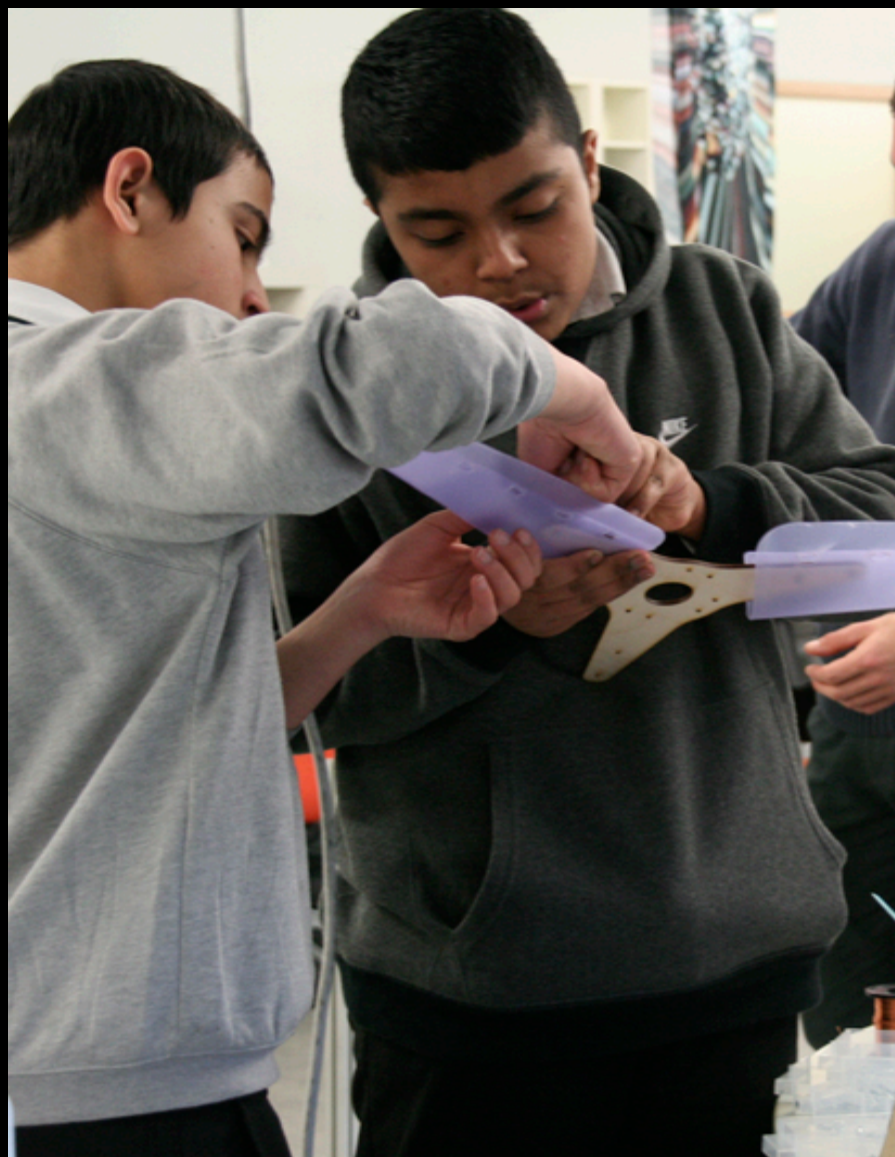


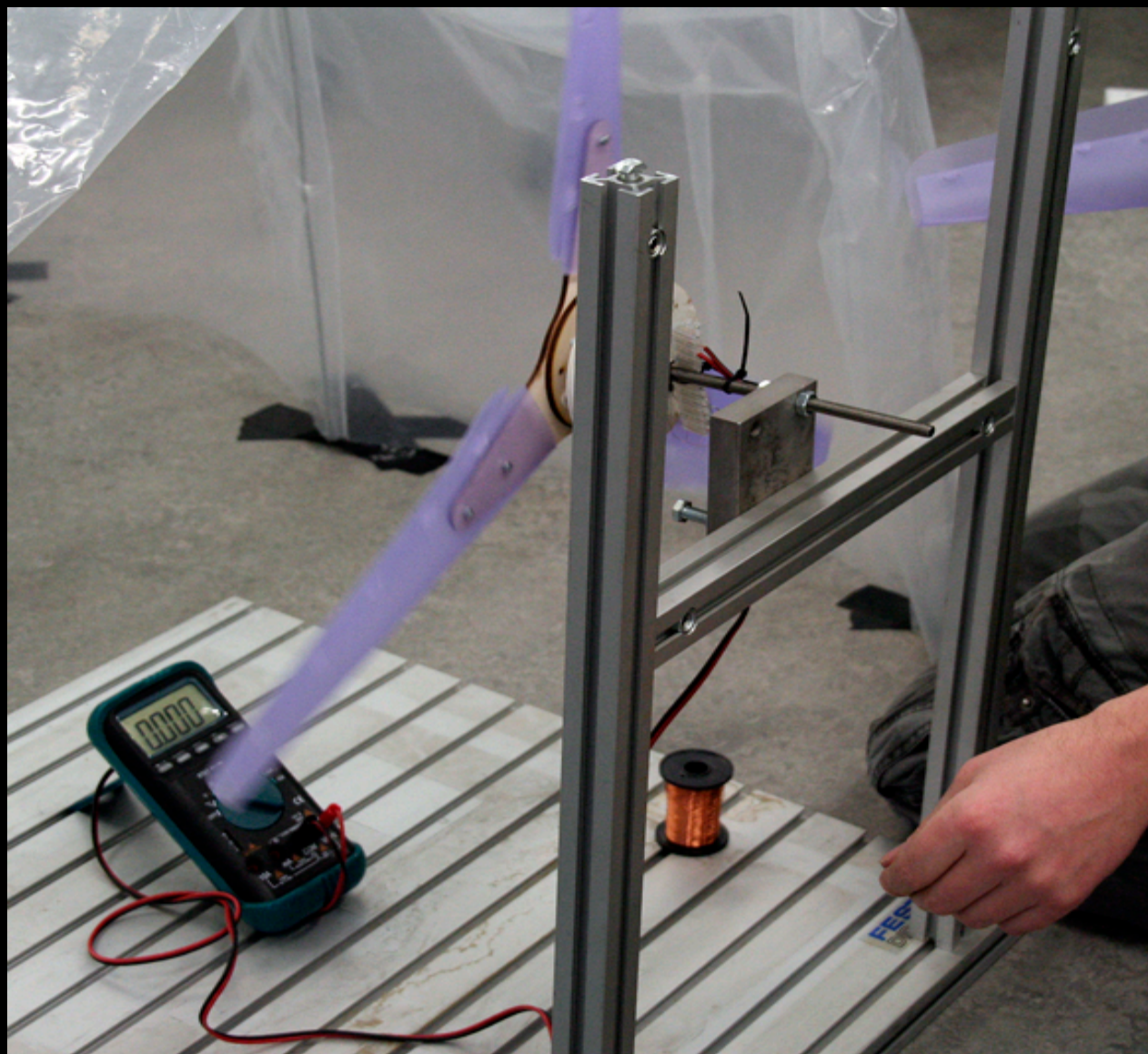


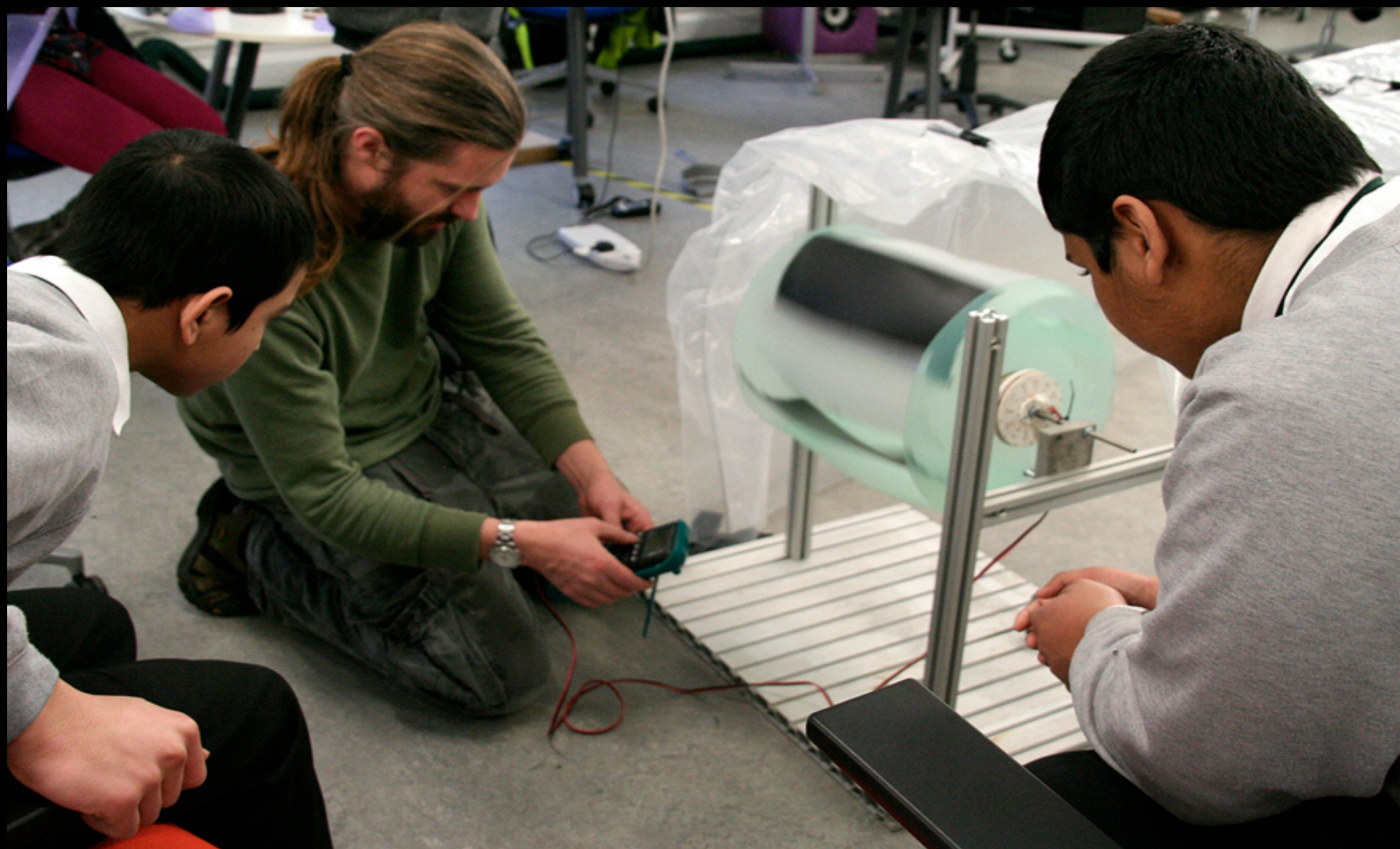


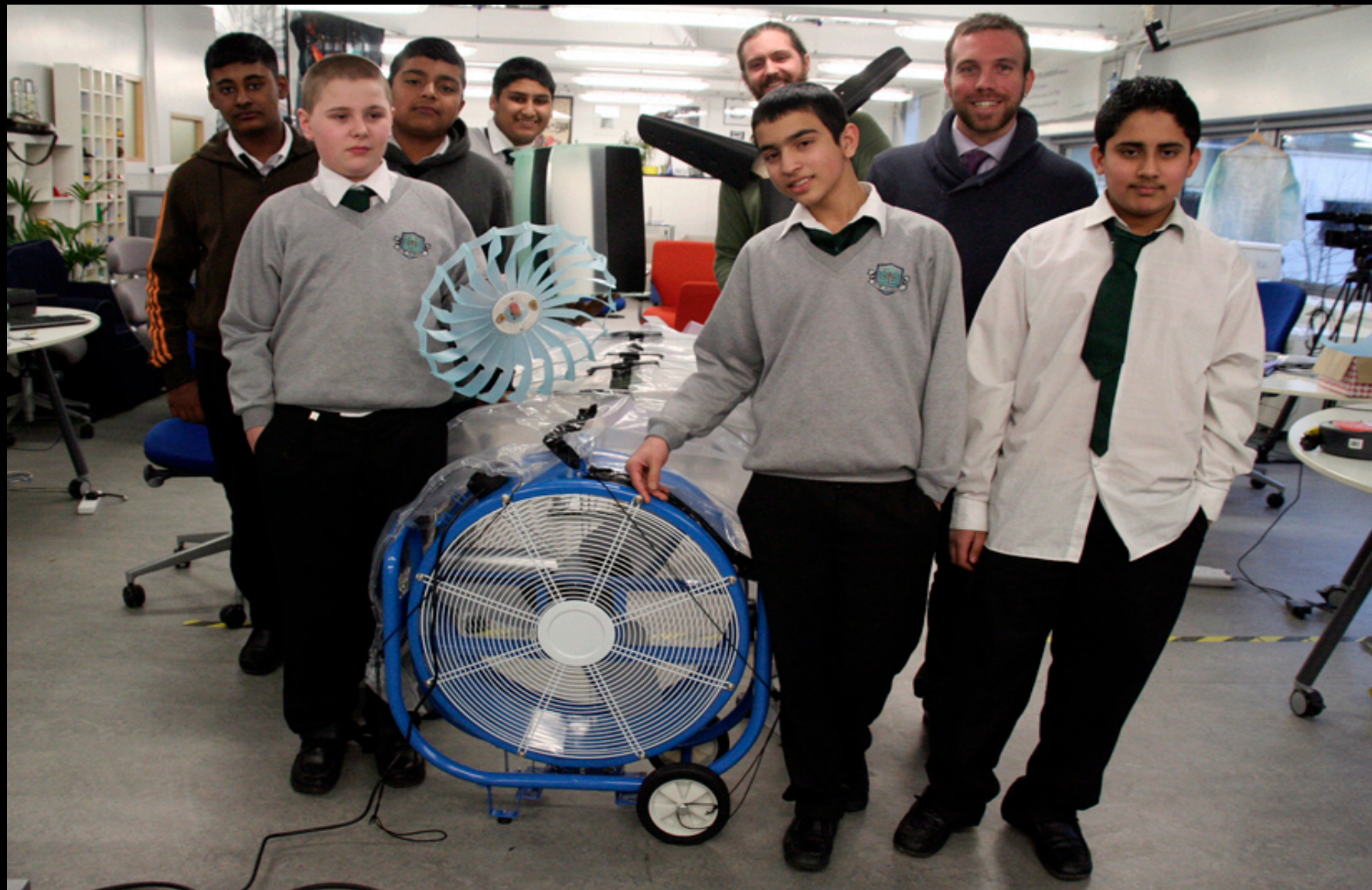














ACTIVE ENERGY

Where art and engineering meet

What do you know about renewable energy?

On the roof of this building you will see a spinning device — a temporary wind turbine created by pupils from Bow Boys Secondary School with help from the Geeser Club at Age Concern, engineers from the University of East London and artist Lorraine Leeson. They have done this to draw attention to the fact that, not only is electricity becoming expensive, but the ways in which it is made can damage the environment.

Renewable energy is the name given to power derived from sources that will neither run out nor pollute the planet, such as wind, water or sun. Most of the technology for this is on a large scale and out of town, as in wind farms. However people are beginning to ask if we can also develop local initiatives to help reduce the cost and pollution of the electricity we use in our own neighbourhoods.

For further information contact:

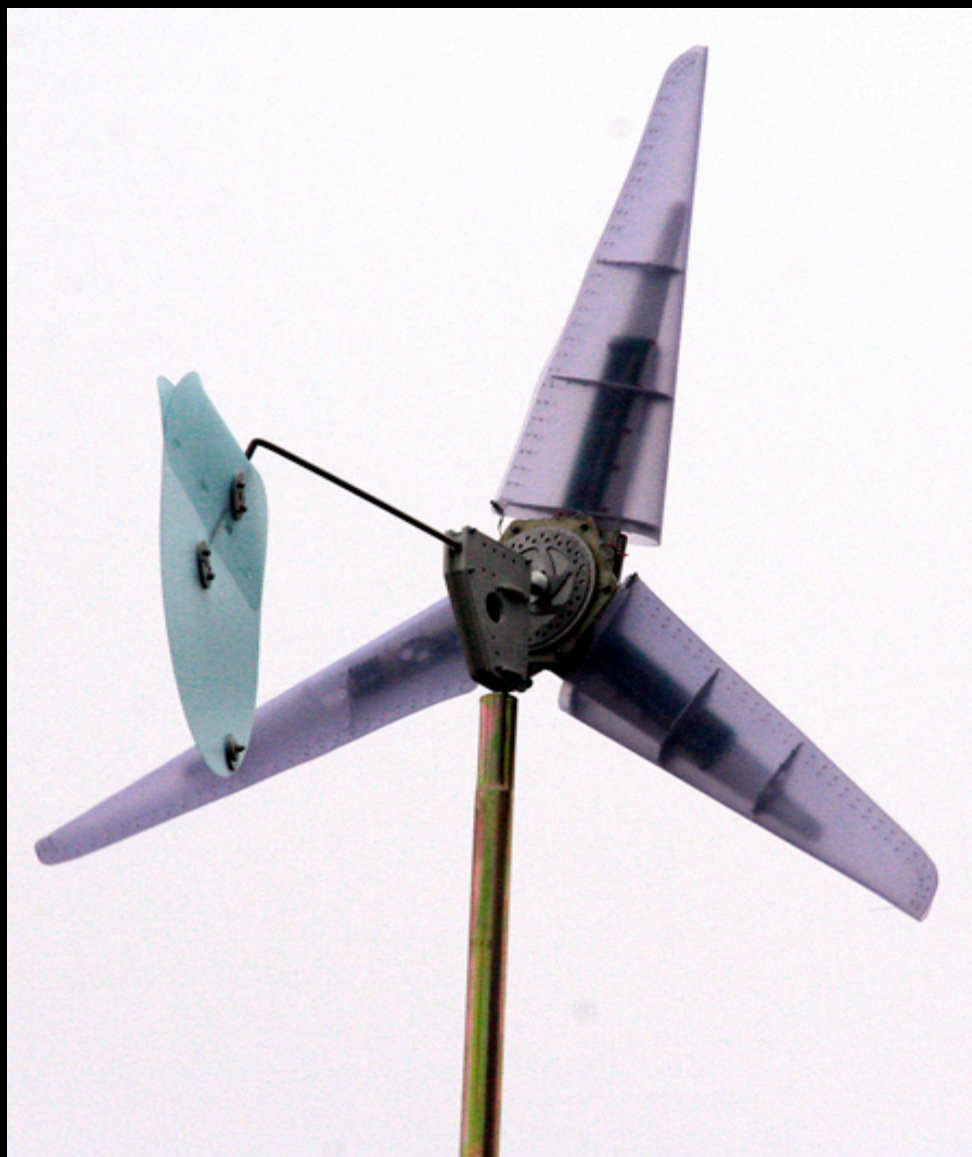
[space]

020 8525 4347

www.spacestudios.org.uk



AGE
Concern
HAMLETS
RESOURCE CENTRE
ENTRANCE →
TEL: 020 8 31 7124

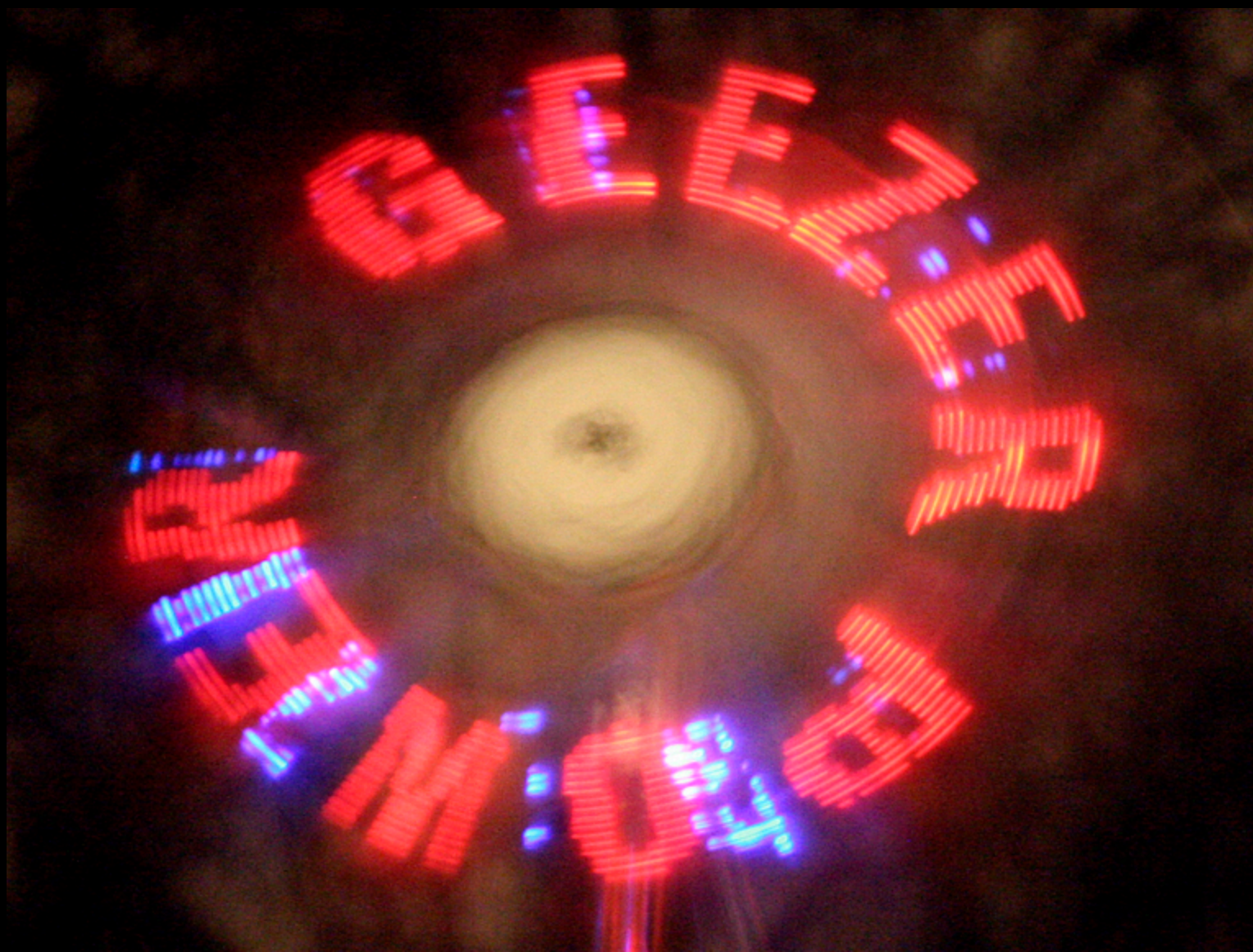




LINKAGE PLUS
ing Services For Older Adults

A blue rectangular sign with white text is mounted on a black metal fence. The sign is partially obscured by the fence's vertical bars. The background shows a brick wall and a satellite dish on a roof.









Northside Seniors, Pittsburgh

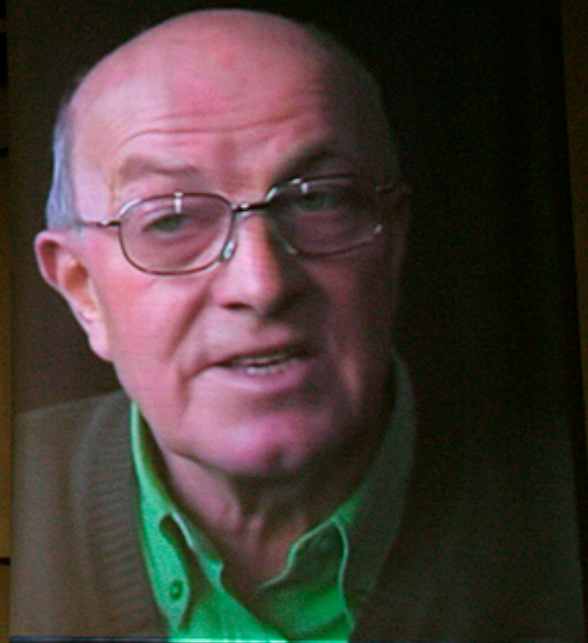
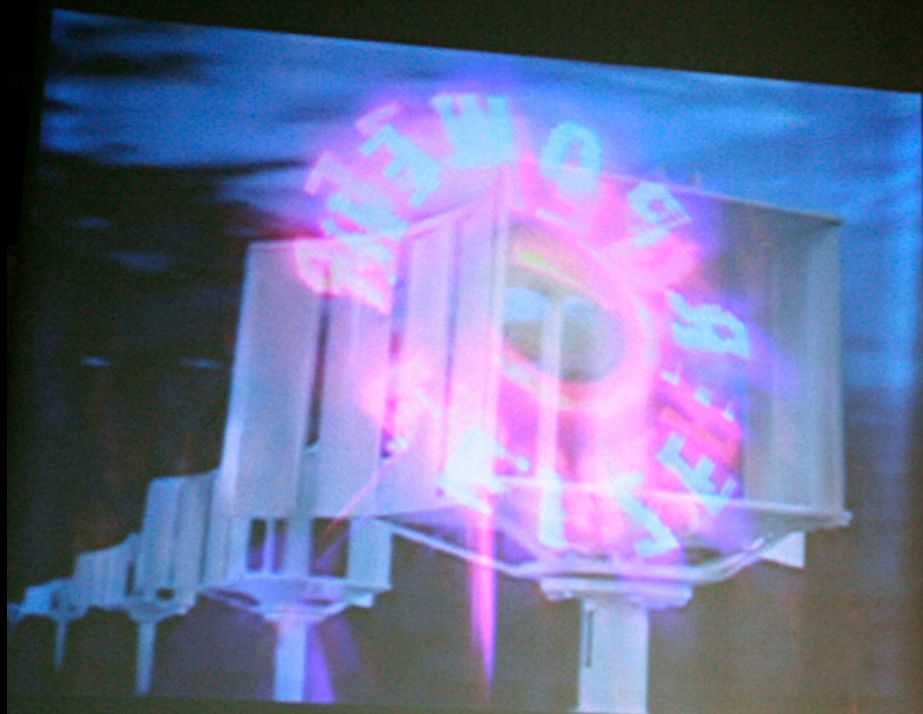












meanwhile back in London...





Active Energy Phase II

